

REMARKS

In the Office action mailed July 21, 2005, the examiner rejects all the claims. This reply adds claims 39-51. Thus, claims 1-51 are pending and under consideration.

I. New claims 39-51

This reply adds claims 39-51. Claim 45 includes receiving a request from a user to access the user's own stored personal information then limiting the user's access to that information. This claim is allowable at least because the prior art cited by the examiner does not teach or suggest this feature. Claims 39-44 and 46-51 are allowable at least because they depend upon an allowable claim.

II. Response to rejections

The examiner rejects claims 1-6, 10-15, 19-24, 28-33, 37, and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0157014 ("Zhou"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Zhou shows a system where a user stores information, and the user limits other users' access to that stored information. Zhou refers to these other users as "searchers". Specifically, Zhou mentions a user establishing groups of searches where each group has different access rights. See ¶ 0029.

In contrast to Zhou, claim 10 recites setting rules by "the same user" and selecting a database storing information "regarding potential alternative situations of the same user". Unlike the system shown in Zhou, the method of claim 10 allows a user to control *his own* ability to access his data. The system in Zhou only allows a user to control *other users'* ability to access his data.

Claims 1, 19, 28, 37, and 38 are allowable over Zhou at least because they include a feature similar to the feature discussed above. Claims 2-6, 11-15, 20-24, and 29-33 are allowable at least because they depend upon an allowable claim.

III. Response to § 103 rejections

The examiner rejects claims 7-9, 16-18, 25-27, and 34-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Zhou in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,966,714 ("Huang"). This rejection is

respectfully traversed. This rejection is improper at least because Huang discloses nothing that suggests modifying Zhou to overcome the deficiencies discussed above.

IV. Conclusion

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

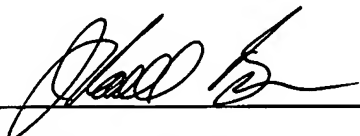
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with the filing of this reply, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 12/21/5

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